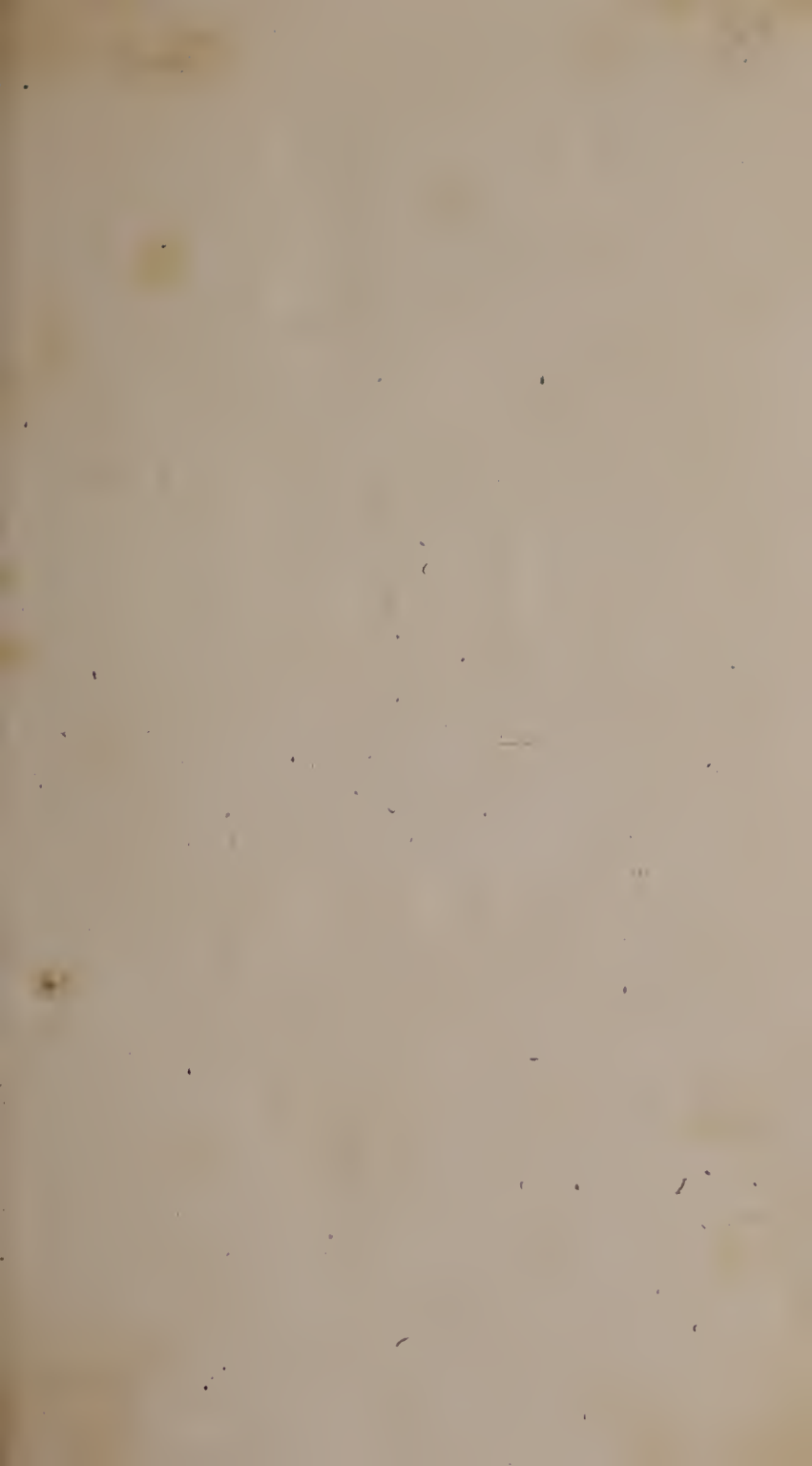


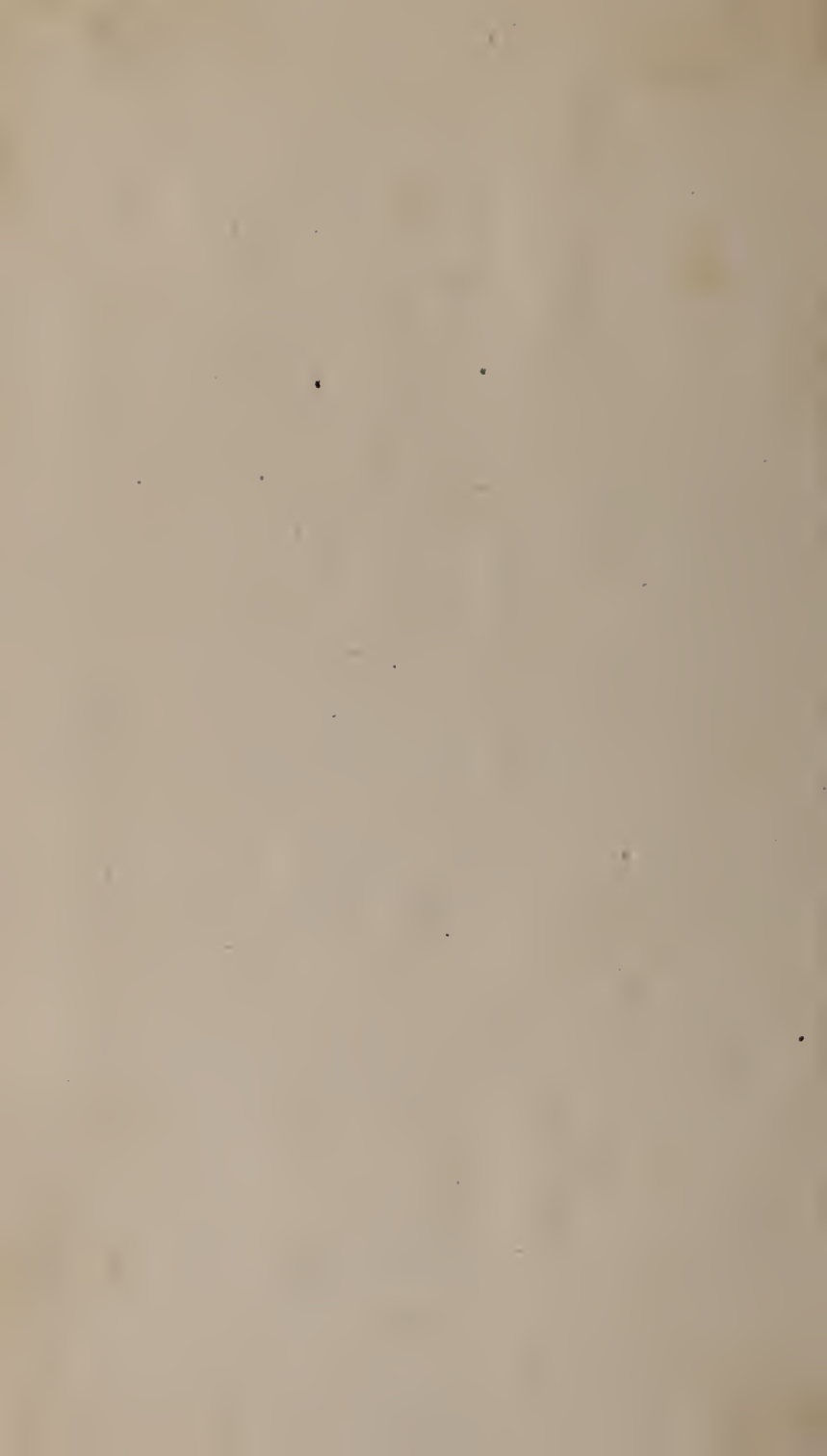
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AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

VOL. XXXIV—1858

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

AT ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM.

WASHINGTON:

C. ALEXANDER, PRINTER,

111 STREET, NEAR NAVY DEPARTMENT.

1858.

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THE
AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

Vol. XXXIV.]

WASHINGTON, JUNE, 1858.

[No. 6.

The late General Charles Fenton Mercer.

THE shadow of death has fallen upon this Society: we record the recent decease of several of its distinguished friends. The great and the good descend to the sepulchre, but their example, works, and glory survive to enlighten the counsels and animate the hearts of their successors. Truth and charity are immortal.

General CHARLES F. MERCER, after a very painful and protracted illness, died at Howard, near Alexandria, Va., on the 4th ult., in the eightieth year of his age. A few facts in relation to his ancestors and some of the leading events in his own life, were some years ago briefly recorded by himself, and from this statement, and others supplied by his near relatives and from our own recollections of his public labors for more than thirty years, we are enabled to offer an humble but very inadequate tribute to the memory of this eminent patriot, statesman, and philanthropist.

General MERCER was born in Fredericksburg, Virginia, June 16th, 1778, very near to Marborough, the birth-place of his father, JAMES MERCER, and for many years the residence of his grandfather, JOHN MERCER, who emigrated when a young man from Ireland, near the beginning of the last century. John Mercer was very successful as a lawyer, amassed a large fortune, published the first abridgement of the laws of Virginia, and died in 1769. James, the third son, adopted the profession of his father, became President of the General Court of Virginia, was translated thence to the Supreme Appellate Court, was a zealous Whig, and chosen by the conventions succeeding the extinction of the Royal power in Virginia a member of the Committee of Safety. After the written constitution of the State was adopted in 1776, he was elected a member of the Continental Congress, in which

he served in 1779. He died while attending upon his public duties as Judge of the Court of Appeals, in 1793, leaving a large estate encumbered with heavy debts, all of which, at a subsequent period, were most honorably assumed by the subject of this notice, in the spirit of filial piety to the only parent he had known, his mother having died in his infancy—thus causing (to borrow his own words) to himself much suffering in after life.

For two years after the decease of his father, young Mercer found himself without means of completing his education, but in 1795 he entered the junior class in Princeton College, and in 1797 the first honors of his class were awarded to him by the unanimous vote of the Faculty and his class-mates, and at the Commencement he delivered a Latin oration. Of this class of thirty-one students were several names since highly distinguished—Hon. Richard Rush, Governor Troup, Governor Edwards, and Dr. Beasley. The three next succeeding years he prosecuted, in the same place, the study of law, and in the last year for his master's degree, pronounced a discourse in favor of establishing a permanent navy for national defence, which was published, without the knowledge of the author, in Philadelphia in 1801, and at the North with the title of "The Voice of Prophecy," in 1813.

On the 4th of July, 1798, at the age of twenty, while a student of law, when an invasion by the French was threatened, in a letter to General WASHINGTON, he tendered his services for the defence of the country, to which he received a kind reply and a promise to promote his views; and a little later a commission of first lieutenant of cavalry, and soon after of captain, which, as all danger of war had ceased, he declined to accept—never intending to devote his life to the military profession. He had the happiness, at a personal interview, to learn that General Washington approved the course which a sense of duty had led him to pursue.

In 1802, after five years study of the law, he was licensed to practice in the courts of Virginia; in October of that year, he went to Europe, and returned in December of the following year, and engaged in the duties of his profession, having at this time assumed the payment of all his father's debts.

He was elected in 1810, by his fellow citizens of Loudoun County, a delegate to the General Assembly of Virginia, and for seven successive years occupied that station. He is stated to have secured the enactment of the anti-duelling law of that State. In 1811, he recommended to the General Assembly an enlargement of the banking capital of the State by increasing the capital of the only existing bank and the erection

of another—the new capital to pay a bonus of twenty per cent., and the stock to be sold at auction. He mentions the success of this proposal, and that with the twenty per cent. bonus the auction yielded \$80,000 to the Commonwealth. War with Great Britain was expected in 1811, and he tendered his services, through his personal friend, Mr. Monroe, to the General Government. In 1812, he acted as commissioner, with Chief Justice Marshall and others, in the examination of the Greenbriar and New River sources of the Great Kanawha, and the headwaters of the James, with a view to their improvement, and if practicable, their union by railroad or canal. In that year he submitted resolutions to the Legislature for the establishment of a permanent fund for the internal improvement of the rivers and roads of the State; a measure arrested by the war, but subsequently adopted.

Our space will not allow us to give a full account of the services rendered to his country, and especially to his native State, during the last war with England; but justice demands the assertion that they were prompt, self-sacrificing, brave and able. As Aid to the Governor, he was appointed in 1813 to visit and prepare for the defence of Norfolk; and on the return of the Governor, he received a commission as Lieutenant Colonel of the forces which in his absence the General

Assembly had resolved to raise for defending that city. Commissioned to proceed to Washington and settle the military claims of Virginia on the General Government, he wrote an elaborate defence of these claims, to the principles of which some objection was urged by the War Department, but which were finally confirmed by Congress. While engaged in this vindication of the claims of his native State, he became convinced that her policy of raising and equipping an army for her own defence was inconsistent with that concentration of power in the hands of the United States Executive, most conducive to the common protection and welfare of the whole country; and with the approbation of the then Secretary of State, Mr. Monroe, he addressed a memorial to the Governor of Virginia, which ended with a recommendation that the Legislature should be convened to "repeal the act authorizing the regiment of regular troops of which he was the lieutenant colonel;" and on the convention of this body, he had the opportunity of submitting a motion to that effect, which prevailed by a unanimous vote.

Appointed, during the session of the General Assembly, a Major General of the militia authorized by an act of Congress to be held in readiness for the public service, at his own request he was ordered to Norfolk, where he remained with a company of volunteers—who, as others

were not ready to supply their place, consented at the earnest request of the commander of the port to stay.

“The winter of 1814 was a season of sore affliction to the troops at Norfolk, composed of the militia called out for short terms of duty, never in service long enough to become familiar with their duties, or enured to an unhealthy climate, although unhealthy only to those who were strangers to it. Many perished by disease, many more died on their way home after being discharged, and hundreds were weekly released from further service because they were utterly unable to perform military duty. Three thousand were buried at Norfolk who never encountered an enemy in the field; and the dead were silently interred at night by torchlight, to avoid depressing the spirits of the survivors.”

Severe illness to the commander was the consequence of his efforts and exposure, but returning to Richmond he soon recovered, and accepted the office of Inspector General, from the Executive of Virginia; and a little later, of Brigadier General, to command the 2d brigade of an army of 10,000 men, and discharged many arduous duties; but danger being averted from Virginia, he resumed his seat in the General Assembly of the State, where at the same time he held the position of chairman of the Committee of Finance and of a committee for the defence of the State. Of the great and successful labors of this eminent Virginian during the session of the General Assembly of that State in 1816, and for several subsequent years in the Congress of the

United States, to promote internal improvement, education, African Colonization, and the true policy for the suppression of the slave trade, we are happy to present a concise history from his own pen.

“He accordingly revived the resolutions he had submitted in the winter of 1812-13, to create a fund for internal improvement, to consist of all the stocks of the State derived from banking operations, and all future acquisitions from the same source. The capital of the fund was to remain untouched: its revenue to be applied to such works of internal improvement as the Legislature might approve, in such manner as to elicit from private subscribers to all such works, three-fifths of all sums required for their construction, while the State furnished the remaining two-fifths from that interest, on condition that no dividend should accrue to the State on her two-fifths till the private stockholders should have realized six per cent. on their subscription, and with another condition that, for the first fifty years from their incorporation, their dividends should in no case exceed ten per cent., nor for the next fifty years six per cent. To collect information, to guard the fund from alienation or misapplication, a Board of Public Works was superadded, to be composed of members chosen annually by the Legislature from prescribed divisions or districts of the State. The Board was empowered to engage and employ the services of a civil engineer, of established reputation, to aid their inquiries, to meet once a year prior to the annual meeting of the Legislature, and to recommend such measures of improvement as they might deem expedient. In the ensuing election of members to compose the first Board, along with Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Madison, and others, the mover of the system delineated above, was also chosen by an almost unanimous vote

of both houses, there being but two dissentient ballots. The Governor was made *ex-officio* President of the Board.

"In the annual report of the Committee on Finance the chairman recommended—by a joint resolution to be submitted to the Senate if approved by the House—the appropriation of the entire claim of the State upon the General Government, to public education; and this resolution being approved by both houses, he moved another resolution which proposed, in express terms, the establishment of an University, to be styled the University of Virginia, and such additional colleges, academies and primary schools as should diffuse the benefit of education among all the people of the Commonwealth.

"This resolution also received the approbation of both houses. He also moved and succeeded in having passed by both houses, a bill authorizing a careful survey of the natural and artificial features of the State, with a view to the execution of a correct map of her whole territory and of a chart of each county. And he further carried another bill, written as the former by himself, but reported by another member, who was absent at its passage, to appropriate the proceeds of sale of certain lots held by the State in the city of Richmond to the repairs of the Capitol and the graduation, planting and permanent enclosure of the public grounds around it. Those sales produced more than \$80,000. The task of reducing the revenue after the adoption of the preceding measure was one of no difficulty whatever.

"Being for the last time, while confined by sickness in this district and not a candidate, re-elected to the House of Delegates, he served at the ensuing session, and on the 14th of December submitted to the House a resolution, which he had penned the preceding summer and shown to many persons, in a long journey to

Canada, made for the benefit of his health, and which resolution was every where approved, to call on the General Government for aid in procuring a territory in Africa, *or elsewhere*, (this word being inserted without his consent,) to serve as an asylum to such of the free people of color of Virginia as might choose to avail themselves of it, and such of her slaves as their masters might please to emancipate; he had the gratification to witness its passage through the House with the dissent of but fourteen votes, and through the Senate with but one dissentient voice. The resolution passed the House with closed doors, but the injunction of secrecy was immediately removed.

"For three years after this period the author of this narrative devoted his time almost exclusively to this, to him, most interesting object, which finally owed its success to the legislation of Congress, quite as much, if not more, than to the American Colonization Society. In aid of it he collected in Baltimore, during a visit of a fortnight, the sum of \$4,700. This sum was applied to defray the cost of the exploring expedition of Mills and Burgess to the coast of Africa, south of Sierra Leone, where, it was hoped, that a proper site for the contemplated colony would be found. But the writer of this narrative rendered afterwards much more important aid to the enterprize he had thus set on foot by the first public resolve of Virginia in relation to it. In April, 1817, he was elected to Congress, from the district in which he had lived since 1804. His first speech was delivered in support of the authority of the House of Representatives to punish contempts. His second, in favor of the constitutionality of the power of the General Government to appropriate money to internal improvements: both of which he drew out for publication. They were two of the only five speeches out of very many that he prepared for the

press, in a period of service which lasted through forty-eight sessions of Congress. In 1818, he sustained the resolution written by Mr. Clay, of Kentucky, and moved by Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, which condemned the invasion of Florida by the American army. * * * *

This speech he also drew out in part for publication. In the same year, he wrote a resolution to publish the journals of the Convention that framed the Federal Constitution, and the private foreign correspondence of the Government during the Revolutionary War—both of which were exposed to destruction, and the former existing on separate slips of paper difficult to arrange. A member of the Senate hearing of this resolution, anticipated the first object of the written resolution, in consequence of information given him of its existence, and the residue was added to the resolution when it came from the Senate to the House, at which stage, at the suggestion of Mr. Rufus King, the addition to it was made of the correspondence of the Government down to the ratification of the Constitution, in 1789.

“In 1819, the State of Georgia having caused certain recaptured Africans, wrested from their country by the slave trade, in violation of the laws of the United States, to be sold and the moiety of the proceeds of sale to be paid into her treasury, the writer of this narrative prepared the heads of a bill which he prevailed on Dr. Floyd, a member of the Committee on the African slave trade, to report in form to the House to alter the existing law by requiring the marshals of the several States, whenever captive Africans should be brought into the United States, to take care of them, maintain them at the public charge, and to send them back to their native country. An agent of the United States was authorized to be appointed to receive them there, and one hundred thou-

sand dollars was appropriated to carry the act into execution. Gov. Floyd was called home by sickness of his family; Mr. Middleton, chairman of the committee, proposed to abandon the bill, and it devolved on the writer to sustain it in the House and procure friends for it in the Senate. The bill passed both houses, and Mr. Monroe, the President of the United States, consented so to construe its provisions as to appoint the physician or governor of the colony agent of the United States for recaptured Africans, and in order to provide with a secure station, to apply to the use of the first emigrants from the United States the preceding appropriation, on condition that no eclat should be given to the act and his construction of it.

“Out of this appropriation the colony arose, and when some time afterwards the territory of the colony was named Liberia, in gratitude to the President its chief town was called Monrovia.

“For three years the writer of this narrative labored in the cause of African Colonization, giving to it all his leisure from other pursuits, conducting a large share of the correspondence of the Society, and writing both its second and third voluminous reports. On one occasion he franked eight thousand circular letters to the clergy of every denomination in the United States, urging them on every Sabbath near the Fourth of July, to receive subscriptions towards the support of the colony.

“At a subsequent period, he availed himself of the temporary absence of the chairman of the committee on the slave trade, to make a report in that character of sundry resolutions for the adoption of the House, and an amendment of a bill from the Senate. By the latter the African slave trade was made piracy, and by the former the President was requested to open negotiations with the several maritime powers of Europe and America, in order to render that statutory denomination of

this odious traffic part of the law of nations by universal consent and adoption.

“The amendment received the sanction of both houses, and in pursuance of the request contained in the resolution, negotiations were commenced, but proceeded no farther than the extension of the principle of the amendment to Great Britain and the Republic of Columbia, now subdivided into three independent states. One of the benefits which the mover of the resolution anticipated from its adoption was, that it would render the proposal of England to exchange the right of search on the African coast unnecessary. A pirate being at all times liable to search, and to punishment by any nation as *hostis humani generis*. Nor did the mover indulge this hope till it was confirmed by consultation with Chief Justice Marshall and his associate, Judge Washington. The negotiations having fallen short of their intended purpose, a treaty was formed with Great Britain to exchange that right. It was ratified by the Senate, with amendments, which occasioned its final rejection by the other contracting party, but not before, by Mr. Monroe’s advice, Mr. Mercer addressed a letter to Mr. Stratford Canning, earnestly defending the amendments of the Senate and urging the ratification of the treaty as returned in the only form in which it could or ought to receive the sanction of the American Government. This appeal, though laid before the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the British Council, failed of success. It was with some gratification, however, that this writer heard Lord Palmerston express deep regret that it had not produced its desired effect.

“ Besides the first appropriation for the abolition of the African slave trade, which afforded the first emigrants to that country the means of comfortable accommodation on their arrival there, as well as of defence, other sums were afterwards obtained for

the same purpose by the same means. The colony being planted and the Society provided by its increasing contributions with the means of engaging a secretary and traveling agents, with fixed salaries, this writer turned his attention to another object, after three years of zealous labor in this interesting enterprize, now rewarding by its success all its founders.”

To the sagacity and energy of General MERCER were the States of Maryland and Virginia and the Union indebted for the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, of which he was the projector; and in the furtherance of which, as President of the Canal Company, he expended much thought and time, for several years. The aid of the General Government and of the States of Maryland and Virginia, was secured principally by his exertions, and the honor of having brought to completion this great national work, will ever be regarded as mainly his.

During his long congressional career of thirty consecutive years, he held himself almost wholly aloof from partizan controversies, directing his eye singly to the promotion of the highest interests of his country and mankind. To introduce his own language, “he was prompted during his whole public life by a desire to be useful rather than distinguished, and to soothe and allay rather than excite party spirit; to preserve the dignity of Congress, by suppressing disorder among its members and sustaining the authority of its rules.” He was reluctant to oc-

cupy himself with small concerns, or even matters of merely pecuniary interest, ever cherishing high purposes and intent upon great objects. He saw that every thing material and evanescent must lack the highest attribute of the sublime.

Among the friends and associates of General MERCER in his earliest labors for African Colonization, were ELIAS B. CALDWELL, FRANCIS S. KEY, WALTER JONES, and WILLIAM MEADE (now the Right Reverend Senior Bishop of Virginia) To these should be added the name of General HARPER. Only two of these, Bishop Meade and General Walter Jones, survive.

To the wisdom, ability and eloquence of General MERCER, especially, was Humanity indebted for that congressional legislation by which, through the interpretation given to it by Mr. Monroe, the first successful movement was made by the American Colonization Society to found a settlement of free civilized men of color on the western shore of Africa. His hands were strengthened, however, and his resolution sustained by the earnest and cheerful co-operation, counsels and appeals of the distinguished gentlemen we have mentioned, whose disinterested and invaluable labors should be ever held in grateful remembrance.

None who peruse the second and third reports of the American Colonization Society, will doubt that the

views of our revered friend were alike just, large and comprehensive. To him the scheme of this Institution was full of benevolence in all directions, and of blessings, unlimited in extent and duration, to the African race. As they continued unchanged, so did his efforts to promote them to the close of his life. In the second report of the Society he said :

“In the distribution of free colonies along the coast of Africa frequented by the slave ships, and the employment of a suitable naval force to guard its peace, the managers believe that the most efficient, if not the only adequate remedy, will be provided for enforcing the existing laws of the United States against the African slave trade.”

“If so many of the best interests, not only of these United States but of mankind in general, are to be promoted by the colonization of Africa, may not the hope be confidently indulged, that the wisdom and patriotism of the General Government will countenance the hitherto imperfect efforts of the American Colonization Society.

“The numerous, respectable and concurrent authorities, to which the managers have resorted in their endeavors to acquire all the knowledge which is attainable of the Western Coast of Africa, have augmented their desire to liberate its wretched, but artless and docile and amiable inhabitants, from the chains of slavery and superstition in which the oppression and ignorance of so many ages have fast bound them. In their climate, soil, productions, and general health of this much injured country, there is every inducement to a zealous prosecution of the experiment which the Society has begun.

“That a colony of the free people of color of the United States may be planted

and protected on the Western Coast of Africa, at little comparative expense, can no longer be questioned. Should it prosper in its future growth, the extent of the blessing to which that prosperity may lead, as regards the civilization of Africa, the happiness of the free people of color, and the reduction of the number of slaves in America, no human sagacity can either foresee or compute. It is the duty of man to obey the Divine will by laboring to achieve all the good within the compass of his limited capacity, and to trust with humble but zealous confidence, for the success of the efforts in the superintending Providence of God."

In the third report, having spoken of the happy results which must arise to Africa from the extinction of the slave trade, and to free men of color themselves, from their establishment in Africa, he adds :

"New forms of Government, modelled after those which constitute the pride and boast of America, will attest the extent of their obligations to their former masters; and myriads of freemen, while they course the margin of the Gambia, the Senegal, the Congo, and the Niger, will sing in the language which records the Constitution, laws and history of America, hymns of praise to the common Parent of man.

"A revolution so beneficent, so extended and so glorious, requires to effect it the concert and the resources of a nation. The people of America have the power to secure its success against the uncertainty of accident. They are summoned to the performance of this duty, by the most urgent incentives of interest, the most awful appeals of justice, and the tenderest claims of humanity. Its final accomplishment will be a triumph over superstition, ignorance and vice, worthy of a people destined, it may be fondly hoped, to surpass all other nations in the arts of civilized life."

His labors in the cause of internal improvements, while in Congress, were very able, judicious, and efficient; and his last labor for that cause was bestowed on a report (demanding careful and extensive research) in regard to the best route for a road through the Isthmus of Darien, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The report proposed the cutting of a canal through the highland for three miles in the distance of fourteen, which separates Nicaragua from that ocean. The public mind was unprepared justly to appreciate the merits of this report, which however received the notice of Mr. Wheaton, our able minister at Berlin.

Before retiring from Congress, he laid upon the table of the House, resolutions contemplating the reduction of the Executive power, arising from its already vast and annually increasing patronage. He thought that such reduction must tend to allay political excitements, and guard the Union against the violence and frauds of Presidential elections.

He thus records the circumstances and motive which led him to resign his seat in Congress :

"In December, 1829, the writer of this narrative closed a service of eight sessions of the Virginia Legislature and forty-eight sessions of Congress, by resigning his seat in the House of Representatives shortly after he had resumed it in pursuance of the votes of an increased majority of his constituents in a district adjacent to the seat of Government. He had entered public life unencumbered with debts, which made

his retirement an act of justice to his creditors. It is his pride to reflect that not one cent of them arose from the cost of nineteen elections, many of which were closely contested."

His habits of thought and life rendered it impossible for General MERCER to be idle, while his motives for retirement from public life, were such as precluded inactivity. In relieving himself from all pecuniary embarrassment, and conducting the affairs of a financial institution and lending his influence to those national and philanthropic enterprises which retained a warm place in his affections, he found abundant occupation.

"Two voyages to Europe, six to Texas, added to two years spent on his farm in Kentucky, added to two journeys from Florida to Boston, have rendered (he observes) the last nine years of my life one of business rather than rest from labor."

As was to have been expected from one over whom high considerations of patriotic and religious duty held control, instead of seeking the repose to which his arduous labors and advanced age seemed to entitle him, his mind turned to that great work of humanity, yet unaccomplished, the entire abolition of the African slave trade—convinced that until civilization should take possession of Africa, the utter extinction of this enormous evil must be sought in the general consent of nations to denounce it as piracy, against one and all of them. He embarked for Europe, at his own expense, in the autumn of 1853, intent

mainly upon presenting his views to the authorities of Christendom, and obtaining their co-operation in a policy so vital in his eyes to the welfare of the African race and the character of the Christian world. An admirable letter, dated London, December 15, 1854, addressed to the writer, and published in the *National Intelligencer* of Jan. 16, 1855, described the variety and extent of his labors during the preceding year. To such labors he had been invited, several years ago, by resolutions of the Society. Among his first movements was that of presenting a memorial to his Holiness the Pope.

"My main object—and this I permitted to be understood—in beginning with the Pope the labor which, in truth, brought me to Europe, a fourth time in fifty-two years, and so advanced an age, was to secure, if possible, his influence over the Roman Catholic States of the two peninsulas of Europe, viz: four in Italy, and both Spain and Portugal. The last two I regard as the continued stay of the persevering and desperate pirates of the African coast. Had I immediately succeeded in Rome, I meant to overtake two of my American friends then on their way to Spain, and to leave the rest of Italy to be acted upon in my tour towards Athens and Constantinople."

Having conferred freely with M. Talbot, the confidential secretary of the Pope, and sought the aid of the late Nuncio Bedini, he accompanied our late minister to Constantinople, Mr. Marsh, and his interesting family, to Bologna, and thence proceeded alone by way of Venice, Verona, and Milan, to Switzerland; and from

the Sardinian minister (to whom he was introduced by Mr. Fay) he received assurances of the co-operation of that government in his views. The French minister resident there, promised to write in his behalf and that of his object to the Minister of Foreign Affairs at home, and prepare for his reception by the French Government; but as suggested by Mr. Fay, he concluded to seek letters from Baron Humboldt, of Berlin, and therefore proceeded to Brussels, Dresden, Berlin, and also to St. Petersburg, hoping to obtain access to Count Nesselrode. He traveled nineteen entire nights in going to St. Petersburg and returning to Berlin. At the last place, he conferred with Baron Humboldt, and through our Minister, Mr. Seymour, with Count Nesselrode at St. Petersburg. He remarks—

“You will readily suppose that in Berlin and St. Petersburg I did not forget the main purpose of my voyage across the Atlantic, performed at least with a mind disencumbered of politics or business, and provided with the means of moving where I pleased, with a just economy, free from corroding cares of money or hereditary debts, the bane of my past life, and that of many a Virginian before my day.”

On his return to Paris, after a brief repose, he hastened to be in London at the opening of Parliament. In the eloquent letter from which we have already quoted, he observes:

“Objections are made to the time, at which I enter upon the arduous, because hitherto totally neglected, task of giving vital efficacy to the resolution, almost unanimously adopted by the House of Rep-

resentatives, to make the African slave trade piracy by the law of nations, that is, the universal assent of the Christian world, and if possible the pagan also.”

He then proceeds to show, that the warlike state of Europe interposed no valid objection to such a measure, but opportunities and motives for its accomplishment. Some passages of this eloquent letter deserve the consideration of the Christian world.

We must deny ourselves the satisfaction of giving a statement in detail of the earnest and multiplied endeavors of our eminent friend to impress the minds of European statesmen with the necessity and great philanthropy of his object. His letter to Lord Clarendon, his memorial to the Emperor of France, and that to the august Assembly convened in Paris to promote the peace of Europe, showed that age had not impaired the soundness of his judgment, or the warmth and energy of his eloquence. But he felt that his words were too generally unheeded, yet trusted that Providence would cause them, in times less selfish and more virtuous, to gain the ear and heart of nations.

Arrested by a dreadful and incurable malady, not immediately impairing sensibly his vigor of mind or body, in the autumn of 1856 he returned from Europe, and hastened to try the effect of the healing springs of his native State. Deriving little or no benefit from these springs, he visited New York, learned the na-

ture of his malady, and submitted to a surgical operation. The wound healed, and for some weeks hopes were cherished of his recovery, but the danger returned in the succeeding summer, and he resorted a second time to surgical skill. Near the commencement of the present year, he was compelled again to consult the surgeons of New York and Washington—the cause of danger increasing, and assuming a more alarming form; but they were convinced it could not be removed, and that speedy death was inevitable. Yet his step was firm, his mind unclouded, his zeal in the cause of humanity unabated, his cheerfulness like the soft decline of a clear summer day. During the meeting of the Directors of the Colonization Society in January, and when about to retire from Washington to the residence of his relatives in Virginia, to pass in severe suffering the few months that remained for him of life, he requested by a note to the Secretary that a protest should be drawn up, or a memorial to the President, against the abominable revival of the slave trade by France. He reminded the Directors that a resolution of Congress, renewed in 1833, contained a request of the President to *renew, from time to time*, until successful, his negotiations with foreign nations, to make the slave trade piracy by universal consent, and that on the first occasion this act passed almost unani-

mously, and on the last, without a dissenting voice.

From the arrival at the last stage of his pilgrimage, he rejoiced, after many wanderings, to pass the closing days of his life amid the kind attentions and sympathies of beloved relatives, deeply interested in his extraordinary powers, great resources, instructive and finished conversation, benevolent and Christian views and feelings, and other exhibitions of character the more impressive during his severe and final trial.

“Persuaded that he must soon leave the world, he was diligent in setting his house in order; closed up his earthly business, and seemed anxious to withdraw his mind from all worldly things—except in so far as the honor and welfare of his country were concerned. ‘I am trying,’ said he, ‘not to occupy my mind with any worldly matters whatever;’ and then added, with a glow of patriotic excitement, ‘except my country; to her welfare I have devoted my whole life, and I cannot forget it now; it has become a part of my nature, and must die with me.’”

His religious character was evidently maturing. He had been in communion with the Episcopal Church for more than forty years, habitually attentive to his public religious duties, and had “never, as far as he recollected, omitted his private devotions morning and evening.” The unfavorable influence of public life upon genuine piety, he probably more or less experienced, and often remarked.

“It was not his habit to go into what

might be called fashionable society; and during his recent stay of several years in Europe, he pursued the same course, avoiding scenes of dissipation and worldly pleasure. Naturally generous and benevolent, he had cultivated kindly and forgiving feelings as a Christian duty. No man, he declared, ever loved his friends more devotedly than he had; nor had any man ever experienced more of it from those who were true Christians. He had, in truth, never lost a friend who was a Christian; and he was sorry to add he had never had one not a Christian—who, however ardent in his attachment, and warm in his professions, did not forsake him in the hour of need. As to those who had done him wrong, he tried, as far as practicable, to return good for evil: he had prayed for them, even with tears; he had never sought their injury, nor had he found any pleasure in their disappointments and downfall. But, however he had discharged his duty to man, the service he had rendered to God he felt to be most imperfect and undeserving. Being reminded of his usefulness and beneficence as a reason for serenity and confidence at the termination of his long life, his only and very decided remark was, ‘In all that, I have not the slightest confidence whatever. I know the human heart; I have had experience of its motives, and learned how defective they are; how sinful they are. When I was myself most useful, there was nothing that merited the approval of my Maker. No, I have not the slightest confidence whatever in all this. My only confidence is in a genuine repentance and faith in the Saviour: that is my only hope.’”

The question being repeated a little before his death, he replied very decidedly in the affirmative, at the same time giving additional evidence that he looked for salvation only by faith in Christ, and had great confidence that he would not be

disappointed in death or at the day of Judgment. He had clearly cultivated submission to the Divine Will. He had a dread of impatience or repining under his protracted sufferings. No doubt, said he, the Almighty has brought this upon me for the wisest and best of purposes. Once, when through extreme pain compelled to cry out, Why is this? why do I thus suffer? he earnestly rebuked himself, and said, Shall I complain? I, whom my Maker has blessed now for almost eighty years; and closed his lips in silent submission to Him who doeth all things well. His last hours were almost free from pain, and being commended to the mercy of God in Christ, with scarce a struggle, he passed quickly to his final rest, on the 4th of May, in the eightieth year of his age. To Leesburg, where sixty years before he practiced law, in the county and District from which he had been repeatedly chosen a representative to the State and National Governments, those who loved and venerated him brought his remains, to ask for them (from the few survivors among his old friends, and from the children of his former constituents,) a GRAVE.

A scholar, a gentleman (when that word had no equivocal meaning,) a tried patriot, an eloquent orator and writer, a statesman enlightened by philosophy, and a philanthropist after the teachings of Christ—to Virginia, America, Africa, he was a benefactor. He was truly a great and good man; his fame is rather in the future than the present, since the seed he planted is not to be arrested in its growth and defies decay—“first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.”

Death of Anson G. Phelps,

PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

THE news of the death of our universally respected and beloved fellow citizen ANSON G. PHELPS, which was briefly announced under our obituary head this morning, was the more afflicting as it was wholly unexpected. Few probably were aware that he had been ill. His health, however, had been precarious for two or three years past; and the last time we met with him, which was about a month since, we could not help noticing that he appeared more like an invalid than we had ever before seen him.

Mr. Phelps was President of the N. Y. State Colonization Society, a member of the Executive Committee of the Southern Aid Society, Treasurer of the American and Foreign Christian Union, a Director of the American Temperance Union, and of the American Seamen's Friend Society, a Trustee of Union Theological Seminary, a Corporate Member of the American Board of Missions, and an officer or active promoter of almost every other enterprise of Christian benevolence that can be named. New York has few such men to lose—perhaps not one that surpassed him in the universality and magnitude of his benefactions and personal efforts in every good word and work. He lived not for himself, but for the public, and especially for the Christian public, and for the honor of his Master. As an example to others, and not for his own sake, (for he has received his reward,) we hope that some competent hand will in due time present a memoir of his life to the public, which, if faithfully done, will be an invaluable record, showing what one man can achieve, not by the force of extraordinary talent or eloquence, but by a never-ceasing, well-directed, and emergetic purpose and effort to do good, as opportunity and ability might enable him, in every department of Christian labor.

The aggregate of his benefactions, great and small, for one object and another, was very large. Only last Thursday, he subscribed \$500 a year for several years towards the support of Rev. Dr. Riggs (late Missionary to Turkey) as Professor of Oriental Languages in Union Theological Seminary. Two or three years ago he fitted up and furnished 15 or 20 rooms in the same Seminary for theological students.

For several years past, he has given \$1000 a year to the American Board of Missions, \$500 a year to the Southern Aid Society from its origin until now, and in a corresponding ratio, doubtless, to the other benevolent institutions with which he was connected. But his contributions were by no means confined to these.

Mr. Phelps was a Director of the Fulton Bank, the Seamen's Savings Bank, and doubtless of other financial institutions.

As a merchant, Mr. Phelps inherited the extraordinary executive powers of his lamented father, whose name he bore, though he had comparatively little occasion to exert them, as the immense business of his firm (Phelps, Dodge & Co.) had been thoroughly established and systematized under the direction of his father and older partners, before he became prominently connected with it. If however he was less a slave to his business than many others, it was not that he might be idle, but that he might devote his energies more efficiently to objects of benevolence and humanity. It is not every merchant who is so favorably situated as he was in this respect, and of those who are, very few indeed devote their energies so assiduously, and *as a matter of business*, to doing good.

With a rare combination of sound judgment with natural warmth of temperament, Mr. Phelps was entirely free from the ultraisms of the day. His active connexion with the Colonization cause, and with the Southern Aid Society, show where he stood in this respect. To every such object, and to all the objects of Christian benevolence and real humanity, his death is a great misfortune. But the Master whom he served, can raise up or give direction to other men, so that his place shall on the whole be more than supplied, and his expectations and hopes in regard to these various enterprises shall be fully realized, although his own hands are motionless, and his voice silent in the grave.

Mr. Phelps's age was about 40. His disease, which commenced with a cold at the Colonization Anniversary on Tuesday evening last, developed itself in varioloid on Sunday, and terminated his valuable life between 9 and 10 o'clock on Tuesday (last) evening.

His funeral takes place at the Mercer street Presbyterian Church to-morrow afternoon, half past 4 o'clock.—*Jour. of Com.*

[From the N. Y. Colonization Journal.]

A special meeting of the Board of Managers of the Society was convened and fully attended, Wednesday afternoon, May 19th, and on motion the following Resolutions, offered by Dr. D. M. Reese, were adopted:

Whereas intelligence has just reached us, that our worthy friend and beloved President has suddenly departed this life; therefore,

Resolved, That the Board of Managers of the New York State Colonization Society feel called upon to record the expression of their deep affliction for the loss of our endeared and invaluable presiding officer.

Resolved, That our late President inherited the humble piety, earnest philanthropy, and Christian virtues of his late venerated father and predecessor at the head of this Board, and we feel that the Colonization cause never had truer friends or more liberal patrons than the father and the son.

Resolved, That while, as in duty bound, we bow with submission to the Divine dispensation which has thus early called from his career of benevolence and usefulness the chief officer of the Board, and the President of our State Colonization Society, endeared to us all by our personal and official relations; yet we find consolation in the remembrance of his truly religious character, exemplified as it was by his love to God and man, and his fidelity to Christ and his Church, in which respects he was, though young, a bright and shining light.

Resolved, That with our sincere condolence with his family in this mysterious dispensation, a copy of these resolutions be signed by our presiding officer and Secretary, and transmitted to the widow of the deceased.

Resolved, That this Board will attend the funeral services to be held in Mercer Street Presbyterian Church to-morrow afternoon.

Resolved, That a copy of these Resolutions be furnished the press for publication.

FUNERAL.

A large audience attended the funeral service at the Mercer-street Church Thursday afternoon. The services commenced by the singing of Handel's sublime solo, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," by Miss Flint.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. DeWitt, a funeral hymn was sung by the whole congregation, and addresses were made by his late pastor, Rev. Dr. Prentiss, Rev. Mr. Stewart of Tarrytown, Rev. Dr. Bethune, and Rev. Asa D. Smith, all of them eulogistic to a very high degree. If consolation can be found for bereaved friends, it must arise from such words in praise of the departed, and the feeling that they but re-echo their own hearts utterances.

MUNIFICENT DONATIONS.—We learn from the New York Journal of Commerce that the late Anson G. Phelps, after having made abundant provision for his wife, and bequests to other relatives and friends, has given the following legacies:

To the Am. and Foreign Christian Union (to satisfy a mortgage on their premises).....	\$12,600
The Union Theol. Seminary....	30,000
American Bible Society.....	10,000
Am. Board of Commissioners...	15,000
Am. Home Missionary Society..	10,000
N. Y. State Colonization Society.	10,000
Southern Aid Society.....	5,000
American Tract Society.....	5,000
Central Am. Ed. Society.....	5,000
Institution for the blind.....	1,000

Death of Archibald McIntyre, Esq.,

A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

In the death of ARCHIBALD MCINTYRE, Esq., of Albany, which we find announced in the subjoined article, the Colonization Society has lost one of its firmest friends and a liberal supporter. We learn that Mr. McIntyre left a legacy of \$500 to the American Colonization Society, a testimony of his unshaken confidence in its usefulness.

Mr. McIntyre was a native of Kenmore, (Perthshire) Scotland, but came to this country before the Revolution, when but four years old. After remaining a short time at Albany, his family removed to Montgomery county, where Mr. McIntyre

rose rapidly to wealth and social distinction. He was a member of Assembly from Montgomery in 1798, 1799, 1800, 1801, 1802. He again was in the Assembly in 1804.

He was a man of integrity, of method, and exactness in business, and of great enterprise.—Even in his latter years, when he might have been content with his ample fortune, he preferred to use his means for the development of the mineral resources of Northern New York. Time did not efface, even in his extreme old age, the characteristics of his Scottish nationality.—*N. Y. Col. Journal.*

Latest from Liberia.

OUR last number contained recent intelligence from Liberia; but the extracts from correspondence here given, and Mr. Seymour's letter, are still later. The information from the last immigrants, at Robertsport, and from those at Careysburg, are satisfactory and encouraging. It would be well for journals who appear to find gratification in any vague rumors of evil or misfortune in Liberia, to reprint some cheering statements, coming very frequently to the office, from the most upright and intelligent citizens of that Republic.

Mr. H. W. DENNIS, the Agent of the Society at Monrovia, writes to the Financial Secretary, March 13, 1858, that suit has been entered by the citizens of Clay-Ashland, at Court, for an action of injunction against the President and Trustees of Liberia College, to prevent the erection of the buildings of that College at Monrovia. Counsel appeared on both sides, the proceedings lasted two days, much interest was manifested, and the court room crowded. The judge stated that some time would be required before he would be prepared to pronounce his decision. Mr. Dennis adds:—"An account of all the proceedings in this case, together with the doings of the Trustees, I learn, will be published by Mr. Roberts, the President of the College, so that all interested parties in the United States and

Liberia may clearly understand the whole matter and judge for themselves."

Mr. R. L. STRYKER, Superintendent of the Settlement of Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount, writes to the Financial Secretary, under date of the 1st March, 1858:

"We are getting along finely with this last company of immigrants, so far as regards health—they having had very little illness among them. They have cleared several acres of ground and planted much of it, and got much of the materials for their dwellings. They, that is the body of them, seem to be those who will do credit to themselves and the country they are in."

Dr. H. J. ROBERTS writes from Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount, March 10th, 1858:

"I deem it advisable to write you by the English mail steamer concerning the immigrants under my charge, which arrived by the M. C. Stevens on the 18th of December, and will in a few days have been here three months.

"You will be pleased to hear, that of the moiety who remained here of this company, though a great many have been sick, not a death has occurred. We have had an increase of two, and I am happy to report that mothers and children are doing well. This company appear very industrious—have cleared up a considerable space of ground, and many of them are making rapid and extensive preparations for building decent and respectable frame houses—small, to be sure, but commodious."

The Hon. J. H. PAXTON, Superintendent of the Interior Settlement

of Careysburg, writes under date of March 11th, 1858:

"You will be pleased to learn that affairs are progressing finely here, and that the immigrants, as a general thing, continue to enjoy good health. They exhibit industry in preparing their grounds and building their houses. Nathan and Moses Coleman, from Christian County, Ky., and five of the Riggins family, have their houses built; others are preparing their grounds for the purpose. In fact, I must say that the company are interesting and industrious.

"Mr. H. W. Foster, who was appointed by the Committee to the charge of the Receptacle School, commenced operations on the 1st instant.

"You will be pleased to learn that a revival of religion has taken place among the immigrants, and that four have been converted, while several others are inquiring anxiously the way of salvation. I doubt not that great good will be done. As soon as I can obtain a supply of suitable Sunday School books, I desire to establish Sunday Schools in the native towns near the settlement, and to induce those who are among us to attend Sabbath schools regularly.

"You can scarcely imagine the good effect this settlement has had upon the natives: much, though, growing out of the kind manner in which they have been received when they have come among us, and peaceful communication with them otherwise, which secures their confidence and fidelity. President Benson visited our settlement on the 11th ult.—expressed his pleasure at the progress of affairs here, and the people were highly delighted at the honor paid them."

In another letter, Mr. Paxton states that Zoda Queah having informed him that there can be had a nearer route to the depot on the St.

Paul's, one equally free from swamp and marsh, he had determined to procure his services in cutting a line which he, Mr. Paxton, would endeavor to survey, and report the nearest exact distance of the points to be connected by the proposed road.

Dr. J. H. SNOWDEN writes from Careysburg, February 10th, 1858:

"The company last out for Careysburg are at present doing finely, and it is to be hoped that this state of things will continue. Though this settlement is by no means as far in the interior as has been supposed, and will probably lose in a year or two some of the advantages which it possesses over others, it is my opinion that it will always be distinguished over others for its healthiness."

From Rev. G. L. Seymour.

BUCHANAN,

February 1, 1858.

Rev. and Dear Sir:—I received your kind letter of December 16th, 1857, which found me in this place, preparing to return to my station in Pessay, after an absence of a few weeks, for the purpose of obtaining aid from the Government and individuals, to assist in defraying the expenses of an exploration interior of Liberia. And I have to say that I have been blessed in my exertions to the amount of about three hundred dollars; and as I received aid from Government (of course in service of the same) in the important enterprize, about which all appear interested, I feel compensated for the letter I sent in answer, if but one good idea is advanced in behalf of Africa; and do trust that it will awaken the sympathy of our colored brethren in the United States for their fatherland:—for be assured, sir, that it is Africa's own children who are to do the work, under

God. I do not know that it would be well to undertake the purchase of any part of the camwood country alone, with a view to secure the wealth thereof, as the natives think it common property; and of course many would disregard the contract and impose upon the owners. But one thing can be accomplished, viz: to establish trading stations along the line out of the wood country, and obtain it cheap, and yet not be subjected to those impositions; which will be the better plan. It wants faith and works to go hand in hand, and the thing will be accomplished. The three Head-men referred to, are constant in their solicitations for Americans to reside with them, for mutual interest; each of them will be pleased to hear from you on the important subject of interior settlements at or near their dominions; and I believe they will perform all they promise. I shall deem it a pleasure to inform them that I have an answer to the communication in their behalf, if it is but a few lines in my letter, for they have an idea that the Society can accomplish much for them in settling Americans in their midst, and the benefits they cannot express; and I am compelled to regard it as one of the indications of the harvest ripening fast. The extension of settlements interiorwards is not so dangerous an experiment as may be contemplated, if the right kind of persons can be employed; and the Government will have but little to do in affording protection if a friendly intercourse is main-

tained by those that go in the first instance. Our Government is at this time cramped for want of means, therefore can do but little in defraying the expenses of a wagon road now, but will take hold of the thing in due time if the necessary means can be secured to begin, after which it can go on and progress to a respectable issue. I need not remind you, that the means to perpetuate the work on a broad plan is at the disposal of any and all who take hold of it in a masterly way; and the Government is willing, and will no doubt undertake it in a few months. You are correct in the supposition that the wood and our station are beyond the jurisdiction of the Republic,—they are about seventy-five or eighty miles beyond. There would be difficulty in transporting a company of emigrants with luggage to our place, yet it can be done for about twenty-five or thirty dollars apiece, and perhaps less on an average. I have thought it best to begin a settlement with old citizens, and heartily adopt your sentiments as to their moral and religious character.

I forwarded at the same time with my recent letter, a box of specimens, which by this time I hope you are in possession of. I beg to be remembered at the Throne of Grace, and believe me, your humble and obedient servant,

GEO. L. SEYMOUR.

Rev. R. R. Gurley,

Cor. Sec. A. C. S.

[Continued.]

Voyage to Liberia.

BY DR. JAMES HALL.

THE TROOPS—EFFECTS OF THE WAR—VOYAGE UP THE COAST.

THE extracts given in the last number from our official letters to the President of the Society, embody all we have to say in regard to the Cape Palmas war, and very

likely much of a personal nature that we should not have thought necessary or judicious to embody in the journal of our voyage, but we could not well change or qualify a report

that we had once formally made, and which had been published as an appendix to the Annual Report of the Maryland State Colonization Society. We say these extracts embrace all we have to say of the war, and therefore pretty much all we have to say of the voyage from Monrovia to Cape Palmas, as that war governed all our movements and absorbed all our thoughts.— Turn which way we would, and it was nothing but war and its concomitants, insignificant as the matter may seem to those not particularly interested in our Liberia Settlement. One advantage, however, resulted from the movement, fraught as it was with evil: we were better able to form a just estimate of the Liberian character, for Liberia has a character of its own, and even a civilization of its own, such as can be met with nowhere else.

Many of the "Troops" who volunteered were *entirely* Liberians, born and bred in Liberia, sons of old settlers, whom we knew twenty years since, and most of them had been there long enough to be thoroughly nationalized. A few, however, were new-comers, who turned out merely for rations, a nondescript class undergoing the process of incubation or hatching from slavery to freedom, whom it was not difficult to distinguish at a glance. It was quite interesting to witness the drumming up for recruits at the military parade. This process indicated the freedom of Liberians. In our letters, extracted from, we merely said, "about one hundred volunteers were obtained," &c. But let it not be supposed that they turned out at once, because the President wished it, or because a bill had passed the Legislature authorizing him to raise a certain number of men, or that they rushed to the standard to lay down their

lives, if needful, for their Maryland neighbors. No such thing—no little recruiting management and effort were necessary. The parade or military turn out was a general one, an annual or quarterly muster of all the militia of Messurado County happening, providentially or otherwise as people are disposed to believe, on the 7th of February, the very day after the Legislative action referred to. It was one of peculiar interest, as the Zouave uniforms, presented to the Republic by the Emperor of the French, were that day to be distributed. After the usual drill and inspection, the troops were addressed by President Benson, who stated fully the condition of affairs at Cape Palmas, the application for aid, the authority of the Legislature to raise men, the pay, conditions of service, &c. &c., urging them to volunteer in the cause of humanity and the common interests of Liberia. Volunteers were requested to step forth—not one moved a peg. Then commenced the rounds of the sergeant or corporal and music—"Roll went the drum and the fife played sweetly;" but few stragglers fell in; something was wrong, and we began to apprehend a failure. Then followed a kind of general consultation or caucussing. Many important points were first to be settled, the principal one was, who is to have command of the expedition; then, shall we be entirely under the control of our own officers, and not subject to those of Cape Palmas? &c. &c. All these questions must be satisfactorily disposed of, or no volunteering in any cause. The whole movement indicated entire freedom in the humblest citizens of the Republic, and they seemed to be as little under the influence or control of the dignitaries or prominent men as any people we have ever seen. We say not, if this is

desirable or commendable, but we say that it proves them to be a free people, which the enemies of Liberia have often denied.

A parade of the volunteers was had the next day, preparatory to embarkation, in what was termed *fatigue* dress, and had not every motley association of the kind, for the past two hundred years, been compared to Falstaff's ragged regiment, we should certainly claim the privilege here, for we venture to assert that the word "troops" was never before applied to such a line of scaramouches. In cut, color and material of garments, not even Swedenbourg himself could discover a correspondence, if we except the blue "dungaree" inexpressibles, which redeemed most of them from the charge of sans culotteism. A Liberia friend, who was walking in front of the line with us, remarked, that he scarcely recognized one face among them all—that they would hardly be missed in case none returned; proving, that Liberia furnishes the ordinary "food for powder," found the world over.

But the "troops" presented a very different appearance armed and equipped, rigged out in their new Zouave uniform, marching down to embark, to the sound of martial music, colors and banners flying and plumes waving, their bright muskets gleaming in the sun. One could hardly realize these were the same bodies we had seen the day before in *fatigue* dress. Nothing could be more picturesque or striking than a marching regiment in this Arab or African costume; it requires however, the wild music of horns, cymbals, bagpipes, and the like, to correspond with the sight. The dress consists of a white turban for the head, formed of several folds of slazy glazed muslin; a light blue waistcoat, buttoned behind, with a

red stripe down the front centre; a grey jacket, trimmed with red across the breast, buttoning to the throat; red Turkish trousers, gathered in a band just below the calf, met by thick leather russet gaiters, covering the shoes; a blue sash around the waist; this latter is often used on the head instead of the white baft. While on shipboard, at drill, the men were often marched up the fore hatch in two lines, meeting at the main hatch and descending its broad steps in double file; reminding one of the acting of the Forty Thieves in our theatres, far exceeding in effect, however, the sham buffoonery of the stage, for here, in outward appearance at least, was Hassarac's band in reality, the appellative of Thieves excepted. The breaking-in of this company of recruits, of which probably not one-fourth had ever been on parade before, was no slight matter. Many were young men or boys, unbridled colts, who had never suffered even the curb of parental discipline; many had been in country factories, and accustomed to command and dictate to native subordinates, acquiring that pleasant habit of control which our Southern friends consider so essential in the gentleman. The awkwardness of some, the stubbornness of others, and the disposition to sea sickness in the majority, rendered the performances of the first day or two somewhat *promiscuous*; but the persevering efforts of the officers wrought a wondrous change in them before our arrival at Cape Palmas. They marched on shore a well disciplined and thoroughly drilled corps, and to produce this result there was certainly no lack of officers. We had on board one General, one or two Colonels, one Major, two Captains, the ordinary company officers, and field and staff officers in abundance, including

surgeon, assistant surgeon, and chaplain; the latter might possibly have been dispensed with, for there were not less than a half dozen regular clergymen in the rank and file of this army of one hundred and fifteen men. This large proportion of officers is very likely owing to the fact that most of old Liberians were from Virginia, a soil somewhat prolific in the production of this genus. Be that as it may, they were good disciplinarians and well performed their several duties. We strain no point, when we express our opinion, that officers and men, the recruits so speedily raised and equipped, when they marched on shore at Cape Palmas, would favorably compare with any militia in the United States, or volunteers in any service who had not been longer mustered and drilled; and as for pluck and courage, the history of the various encounters in which the Liberians have been engaged, of which we shall take occasion to speak hereafter, is sufficient evidence that they are not excelled by any people in the world; not even by our volunteers in Mexico, during the late war with that country—real dare-devils, pushing headlong into danger, regardless of consequences. Happily, there was no occasion for the exercise of their energy or courage at Cape Palmas; the prudent and judicious management of Commissioner Roberts secured an honorable and bloodless victory, and we trust a lasting peace.

We have before spoken of the effect of the news of the war upon us, of our disappointment in the object of our visit to Cape Palmas. We have said that the place was under martial law, that no business was done save drilling and marching the people around under arms, that we could transact no business with the Society's Agent, could not leave

the immediate vicinity of the cape, or learn anything of the agricultural improvements in the settlement. In fact, our recollection of our five days' stay there, is but little more than that of landing troops, munitions of war, provisions, and watering the ship. One point, however, remains fixed in our memory, our visit to the blackened ruins of old King Freeman's Town, which occupied the bluff on the eastward end of the Cape, where it is connected with the main land. The site or plat of which is rocky, including some two or three acres, and was thickly covered with circular thatched houses, running up to a point like hay stacks, containing some ten or twelve hundred souls. Now, not a vestige of it remained, save a few blackened cocoa-nut trees, the circular hearths or hard beaten earthen floors of the huts of the departed natives, and masses of broken crockery, which once constituted their principal wealth.

We designated the old Palaver Place, where under a broad spreading tree, we effected the purchase of territory, and where we have often met the old chiefs to settle other palavers of a less pleasing nature, and where, too, we have sometimes met them to partake of the brimmers of the sweet palm wine, in their holiday season, when for nights and days together the women danced to the rapidly beaten drum. The visit brought all these scenes and the principal actors in them fresh to our mind, and keenly did we feel the change which a foolish, rash act had produced. But we will not dwell upon the subject, or tarry longer at Cape Palmas, and only wish we could never recall the impressions of our visit.

On the evening of the 21st February, in a pouring rain we put off for the ship, having three boat loads

of the usual luggage of coastwise passengers, goats, pigs, bullocks, fowls, and hampers of rice, cassada, and the like. Some of the *fixings* of the "army of protection" had been left on board by oversight, and some of our way passengers were left behind, as usual. To be sure that all was right, we pulled on shore even the third time in the rain, to make a clean business of it, and wound up our Cape Palmas visit with labor, not unlike what we had been accustomed to there, in days long since.

The getting up the coast in the dry season is no easy affair, the sea breeze generally blowing down, seldom five points off, and the current usually sets with the wind, in fact is made by it, only running more directly on a line with the coast. It averages about two knots an hour, sometimes more, or less, as the case may be. Were it not for the land breeze it would be almost impossible for a medium built vessel to beat up at all. This wind comes off shore in the morning, sometimes rising at two, not unfrequently as late as four or six, and we have known it delayed till later. It generally blows dead off shore, often a point or two up the coast. The way, therefore, to fetch to windward, is to lie quietly at anchor till the land breeze rises, having hauled short the night before or as the sea breeze abates; then stand off and up the coast, keeping a good full to make the most of the breeze, for it is a short-lived one and generally very light. You may calculate upon its dying away at ten or eleven; when, if not too far out, 'tis better to drop a small anchor under foot till the sea breeze sets in, otherwise you drift to the leeward rapidly. When the sea breeze comes, either favorable or otherwise, keep her *full and by*, unless it is so free that you can *lay the coast along*, then

make the most of it; but it will generally head you in shore from two to four points. Therefore, it stands you in hand to get a good offing with the land breeze. As a general rule, you will come in with the land by sundown, when the only course is, to come to anchor at once, and hold on till you next get the land breeze, or till the sea breeze hauls so that you can lay your course, which is seldom the case. There is generally an aversion on the part of seamen, unacquainted with the African coast, to adopt this course.— They think, if they could get a little more offing, the wind might haul a bit, and they could lay up; so they stretch off with the sea breeze, having their starboard tacks aboard.— The result uniformly is, they find themselves far to the leeward in the morning, swept down by the current on their weather bow. If you tack at all, do it in the day time, making a short leg off, and you will then be able to judge whether you can make or lose. We have often known more lost in one night than could be gained in days: but to return to our voyage.

We got under way at Cape Palmas with the morning land breeze, at about one o'clock, and stretched well out in order to come up and in with the sea breeze. At daylight we were abreast of Garraway, having made, as we thought, a fine run. But the breeze died away early, and the sea breeze came in faint and slow. The consequence was, being too far out to anchor, we were near down to Cape Palmas again at noon. It was tough working, but we did our best night and day, having not a moment to lose. The fourth day we hove in sight of Sinou, where we were obliged to stop. We hoped to make it on our first stretch in, with the sea breeze, for which we braced in all we could, but to no

effect; we fell to the leeward of the anchorage, some ten miles or so, running into seven fathoms about 3 o'clock P. M. We thought, for once, we would try our good ship in this feat of beating up, which no old African voyager considers practicable. We determined to stand off one hour, keeping her a good rap-full, that she might get her offing the quicker, therefore drift less to leeward. In one hour we tacked again and stood in, bracing sharp up and keeping her jam in the wind's eye. As we neared the coast we were rejoiced to find the port well under our lee bow, consequently eased her off a couple of points and let her run through the water, which she did in her own gallant style. At 7 o'clock we came to anchor off Sinou, having gained near ten miles in four hours against wind and current, a thing very rarely done. After coming to anchor we tried the current and found it from one-and-a-half to two knots. So much for our ship again.

At Sinou we had to land some cargo and way passengers, with their dunnage and cattle. At daylight the boats were loaded and put off for shore. It was a day of hard labor and fatigue for all hands on board. We took charge of the busi-

ness on shore, and finally got through with it and on board again at ten o'clock at night. Of Sinou we can say but little. It has improved less than we expected, although we did not visit the farming region. Like Cape Palmas it has suffered severely from a recent war with the native tribes, or rather with the Fishmen and their allies in the neighborhood, to whom they have given a lesson that will not soon be forgotten. We found our old friend, Edward Morris, the honorable senator for that county, hale and hearty, and partook of his kindly tendered hospitality. Sinou wants more settlers, *and must have them.*

We weighed anchor early in the morning of the 26th, to continue our tedious process of beating up the coast. No land breeze favoring us, we determined to stretch far out at sea, beyond the influence of the coast current, or hoping to feel it less, well out: and most likely we did; for although we had no land breeze, and the sea breeze almost dead ahead, yet we reached Monrovia on the 3d day of March, making nine working or sailing days from Cape Palmas, which could easily have been run in one, with a fair wind.—[*Md. Col. Journal.*

New York State Colonization Society.

THIS Society held its twenty-sixth anniversary on Tuesday evening, in the Reformed Dutch Church on Lafayette Place.

H. M. Schiefflin, Esq., read the following synopsis of the report of the Board of Managers:

Since our last annual report, two voyages of the M. C. Stevens have been made, conveying three hundred and seventy emigrants to Liberia. In the continued healthfulness of the new and more elevated settlements, the Society may find the highest encouragement. Nothing has hitherto more effectually discouraged emigration than the frequent occurrence of heavy

mortality among newly-arrived settlers. When by time the question of safety to new settlers is fully established, by simply locating them on the hills, we may anticipate a rapid increase of emigration.

The receipts of the New York State Colonization Society, for the year ending April 1, 1858, were, on the general fund, \$11,712 48; education fund, \$3,912 14. Total, \$15,624 62. In addition to these receipts in the treasury, large sums were devoted to agricultural and educational purposes by our friends, which did not pass through the treasurer's hands. The events transpiring in Africa, the West

Indies, and America, relative to the renewed slave trade, the great extension of commercial enterprise, the opening up of access to multitudes in Africa, both on the Niger and Zambesi Rivers, and the use of steam vessels to ascend these great arteries of commerce, unitedly demand from us corresponding increase of efforts to extend and perfect the great work in which we are engaged, and thus to hasten the day when Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hands to God.

The Rev. Mr. Rambo, of the Protestant Episcopal Mission at Cape Palmas, offered a resolution, and made some interesting remarks in regard to the customs of the natives. The Rev. Mr. Bushnell, of the Gaboon Mission, followed.

Mr. Bushnell was followed by Mr. T. M. Chester, a citizen of Monrovia, who had been some time in one of the literary institutions in the Eastern States, and who spoke with great fluency, and with much propriety and good sense. He ranked the religious denominations in the following order: Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, and Episcopalian. The Methodists do not encourage excitement, and conduct revivals in a very solemn manner. The commerce of Liberia increases, but he thought it could never be a great commer-

cial nation for lack of harbors. The principal exports are palm oil and camwood, the former a superior lubricator, and the latter valuable for dyeing, and readily bought by captains at \$60 per ton. The country is admirably adapted to agriculture, and produces superior coffee and rice, indigo, pepper, etc., in great abundance. Mr. Chester's remarks called forth much applause.

The Rev. John Seys, the well-known friend of Africa, who has made seven voyages from the United States to Africa, and who has but recently returned, gave an interesting account of the new settlement of Careysburg, in the interior, a settlement that he had formed in his last visit to Liberia. It enjoys a climate not surpassed, perhaps, in any part of that vast country, and will be a most important auxiliary to the cause of emigration. Mr. Seys offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the healthfulness of the interior settlement at Careysburg, now so thoroughly tested, removes the only solid objection which has hitherto been urged against the colonization enterprise, and our friends may now encourage all suitable persons to emigrate without fear of their exposure to serious dangers.—*Ch. Adv.*

List of Emigrants by the Mary Caroline Stevens, 4th Voyage,

From Baltimore and Norfolk, May 1, 1858.

No.	Name and residence.	Age.	Born free or slave.	Remarks.
NEW YORK. (For Cape Palmas.)				
1	John T. Williams.....	19..	Free	
PHILADELPHIA, PA.				
2	Walker Perry.....	48..	do	
GEORGIA.				
3	Elvira Young.....	26..	do	
4	Sarah Evans.....	15..	do	
5	Fanny Young.....	9..	do	
6	John Young.....	7..	do	
7	Montague Young.....	5..	do	
8	Ryall Young.....	3..	do	
9	Florida Evans.....	18..	do	
HARRISONBURG, VA. (For Careysburg.)				
10	David N. Lewis.....	43..	do	

No.	Name and residence.	Age.	Born free or slave.	Remarks.
<i>(For Careysburg.)</i>				
NELSON Co., VA.				
11	Peter Banks.....	60..	Slave	} Emancipated by N. Dettor.
12	Dorsey Banks.....	62..	do	
13	Eliza Banks.....	32..	do	
14	Mira Banks.....	14..	do	
15	Frances Banks.....	12..	do	
16	Peter Banks.....	8..	do	
17	Charles Banks.....	6..	do	
18	Henry Banks.....	4..	do	
19	Thomas Banks.....	25..	do	
BOTETOURT Co., VA.				
20	Charlotte Burwell.....	46..	do	} Emancipated by Martha Burwell.
21	Nat. Burwell.....	28..	do	
22	Becky Burwell.....	26..	do	
23	Caroline Burwell.....	22..	do	
24	Arianna Burwell.....	20..	do	
25	Edmund Burwell.....	15..	do	
26	John E. Burwell.....	4..	do	
27	Julia L. Burwell.....	2..	do	
ADAMS Co., N. C.				
28	Lane Nelson.....	60..	do	} Emancipated by Col. Wm. Nelson.
29	Robert Nelson.....	60..	do	
30	Dawny Nelson.....	50..	do	
31	Brister Nelson.....	40..	do	
32	Charles Nelson.....	30..	do	
33	George Nelson.....	22..	do	
34	Joseph Nelson.....	25..	do	
35	Alfred Nelson.....	24..	do	
36	Teruby Nelson.....	38..	do	
37	Francis Nelson.....	18..	do	
38	Laura Nelson.....	17..	do	
39	Rosa Nelson.....	9..	do	
40	Maria Nelson.....	34..	do	
41	Susan Nelson.....	17..	do	
42	James Nelson.....	12..	do	
43	Elizabeth Nelson.....	3 mos.	do	
44	Silvia Nelson.....	27..	do	
45	Isaac Nelson.....	9..	do	
46	Simeon Nelson.....	11..	do	
47	Edward Nelson.....	8..	do	
48	Miles Nelson.....	3..	do	
49	Thenia Nelson.....	25..	do	
50	Mary Nelson.....	5..	do	
51	Sarah Jane Nelson.....	5..	do	
52	Jerry Nelson.....	2..	do	
53	Matilda Nelson.....	12..	do	
54	Martha Nelson.....	20..	do	
55	Alexander Nelson.....	5..	do	
56	Allen Nelson.....	2..	do	
57	Lavinia Nelson.....	22..	do	
58	Henry Nelson.....	1..	do	
59	Nisi Nelson.....	18..	do	
60	Seely Peobles.....	80..	do	
61	Maria Peobles.....	38..	do	
62	Caroline Peobles.....	33..	do	
63	John Peobles.....	24..	do	

No.	Name and residence.	Age.	Born free or slave.	Remarks.
64	Martha Peobles.....	27..	Slave	} Emancip'd by Mrs. Lucy Peobles.
65	Jane Peobles.....	27..	do	
66	Andrew Peobles.....	25..	do	
67	William Peobles.....	22..	do	
68	Anthony Peobles.....	do	
69	Frances Peobles.....	20..	do	
70	Eliza Peobles.....	12..	do	
71	Boland Peobles.....	10..	do	
72	Sarah Peobles.....	9..	do	
73	Mary Peobles.....	8..	do	
74	James Peobles.....	5..	do	
75	Napeoleon Peobles.....	2..	do	
76	Roberta Peobles.....	3..	do	
77	Eugenia Peobles.....	3..	do	
78	Ada L. Peobles.....	6 wks.	do	
79	Zelphia Peobles.....	10..	do	
80	William Peoples.....	6..	do	
81	John H. Peobles.....	4..	do	
82	Mary M'Lain Peobles..	3 wks.	do	
PRINCETON, KY.				
83	Joseph Urey.....	48..	do	} Emancipated by F. W. Urey.
84	Charlotte Urey.....	46..	do	
85	James Urey.....	23..	do	
86	Beatrix Urey.....	40..	do	
87	Daniel Urey.....	23..	do	
88	Charlotte Urey.....	4..	do	
89	Andy Urey.....	40..	do	
96	Daniel Urey.....	47..	do	
91	Phebe Urey.....	33..	do	
92	Frank Urey.....	12..	do	
93	Mary Urey.....	10..	do	
94	Esther Urey.....	8..	do	
95	Daniel Urey.....	6..	do	
96	Cynthia Urey.....	4..	do	
SPRINGFIELD, ILL.				
97	Robert Hill.....	52..	Free	
98	Isabella Hill.....	35..	do	
99	Jane Victory.....	27..	do	
100	Susan Victory.....	1..	do	
BENTON Co., N. C.				
101	Samuel Bryan.....	30..	Slave	} Emancipated by James Bryan.
102	Jane Bryan.....	33..	do	
103	David Bryan.....	19..	do	
104	Lucy Bryan.....	16..	do	
105	Joseph Bryan.....	10..	do	
106	Amy Bryan.....	8..	do	
107	William Bryan.....	5..	do	
108	Eliza Bryan.....	5..	do	

CABIN PASSENGERS.—Rev. Eli W. Stokes, Mrs. Coker and son, S. B. DeLyon, M. D., Mrs. Smith.

NOTE.—These 108, together with the number previously sent, (9,872,) make a total of 9,980 emigrants sent to Liberia by the American Colonization Society and its auxiliaries.

The Future of Africa.

THE friends of African colonization have every reason for substantial encouragement in the great work in which they are engaged. Erroneous impressions of the capabilities of the African race are entertained by many in this country, arising from the fact of so many of them having long been in slavery within the bounds of this republic. The impression is strengthened by the other fact, that so great a number of the free sink into a state of degradation. It were easy to account for so deplorable a result on natural and well known principles, without contravening the theory of African capability. The wonder is, that so many promising cases have been found, in which genius and energy have developed themselves in a striking degree. We know a jet black negro, who by the courtesy of the professors and students of one of our medical institutions, was permitted to attend the course of lectures, and passed his examinations with an ability equal to most of his fellow students, and superior to many. Indeed, every thing about him seemed *white* except his color. None could be more quiet and respectful in his manners, none graduated under the seal of a deeper approbation from the professors, who are *colonialionists*. He is now practising with success in Liberia. The effect of the principles of colonization on well disposed minds among our native colored people is seen in various forms. Take for example the commercial firms in Liberia, who have studied the mercantile theory, and have applied the knowledge they acquired to the production of wealth. Some of them have succeeded to admiration. As few have failed there as in this favored country, perhaps fewer in proportion to the number engaged in business. A poor colored boy, who was a common newspaper carrier in one of our cities, was smitten with an ambition to "be something," and he went to Liberia. There he became quite a scholar for a Liberian, a noted lawyer, and an orator. We have read his letters with surprise, and a printed oration of his on the life of a deceased officer of the republic, excited our admiration. The flowers of an African imagination were freely distributed through his composition, but this was natural to him. He might not have studied Blair or Whately, but the effusion is very creditable, and lifted him high among his peers. A more sober style of thought and expression appears in the messages of the colored Presidents

to their legislature, as befits the dignity of their station. Many of our Governors have not surpassed them. Good sound sense has ever characterized these documents. Their policy is simple, their wants few, and their ambition is chastened by the necessities of their position. The power and influence which the official leaders have exercised over hostile or restless adjacent tribes, are truly remarkable. The peculiar condition of the people keeps them near the protecting providence of a superior Power, and they are not slow to inculcate this idea in their official documents. Armies and navies they have none. They rely for peace on the comity and good will of enlightened foreign nations. And this has been extended to them freely and honorably. Of the interior of Africa, heretofore almost a blank on the map of the world, modern scientific travellers and religious missionaries are continually bringing new information. It is impossible that the labors and discoveries of such men as Moffatt, Livingstone, Barth, Bowen, and Wilson should be in vain. From them we learn of stalwart races, noble chiefs, in lands of singular fertility and abundant resources. We hear of languages copious, mellifluous, and even systematic in their details, which, when reduced to a regular grammar, exhibit moods, tenses, and terminations almost as perfect as the Greek, Latin or English. What is not the printing press yet to achieve for Africa? How are the triumphs of Christianity yet to adorn that land? An officer in the service of one of their kings had been degraded for some crime. He was saved from death by the intercession of the missionary. The sable warrior disdained the boon of life, if he was to be deprived of the rank and privileges, the badges and honors of his position, and rejected the commutation of his sentence, which to the astonishment of the other nobles, the missionary had obtained for him. Clapping his hands on his bosom, he exclaimed: "Oh king, afflict not my heart. I have merited thy displeasure. Let me be slain like the warrior. I cannot live with the poor." Raising his hand to the ring he wore on his brow, he continued: "How can I live among the dogs of the king, and disgrace these badges of honor which I won among the spears and shields of the mighty? No, I cannot live! Let me die, oh Pezoolu!" And he was precipitated over the Tarpeian precipice into the yawning waters below, to be de-

voured by crocodiles. Such is African pride on one hand, and African despotism on the other. Christianity will humble the one, and destroy the other. There are

Africans who have never been made slaves, even in regions where the slave trade has been triumphant. Such are the Kroomen, the watermen of the coast.—*Jour. of Com.*

Dr. Livingston on the Resources of Africa.

DR. LIVINGSTON, the celebrated African traveler, recently made an address before the Chamber of Commerce in Manchester, England, in which he spoke at length of the resources of Africa:—

He said that the African ought to be encouraged to cultivate the raw materials of English manufactures; and he was so fully convinced of the elevating tendency of lawful commerce, together with the probable influence which the course specified promised to have on the slave trade and slavery, that he proposed to devote the next few years of his life to special efforts in that direction. A peculiar and rather annoying combination of circumstances had placed the great Anglo-American race, on which undoubtedly the hopes of the world for liberty and progress rested, in a very trying position. Our demands for sugar and cotton were daily increasing, those demands were at present met in a great measure by slave labor; but the great body of Anglo-Americans would unquestionably prefer to have their wants supplied by free men, and he ventured to hope that the discovery of a new region, well adapted for raising those articles, might be a providential opening for enabling us to escape from our anomalous position. Before attempting to give some idea of this new field for commercial enterprise, it might be mentioned that, while he proposed to try to make the Zambese river a permanent path to the inland healthy region, with a view to the wide diffusion of civilization and Christianity, and endeavoring to link the interests of the African with our own, he had felt that it would not be right in him to do this at the expense of those who contributed their money for purely religious purposes; but the gentlemen he now addressed, in common with others, had contributed handsomely, in the way of testimonial funds, to relieve his mind from care with respect to his family—and he begged to tender them his very grateful acknowledgments.

Mr. Cheetham, M. P., asked Dr. Livingston what were the peculiar productions of the districts which he had visited?

Dr. Livingston said, it would be observed that the country through which the Zambese flowed was abundantly watered by the numerous rivers which joined it.

South of latitude twenty degrees there was country remarkably destitute of water, where one might travel four full days without obtaining a single drop of water, there being no rivers South of that line; but the country to the North of it was totally different. While in the South the vegetation was altogether thorny, there being a prodigious number of different kinds of thorns, the northern and well-watered country produced a vegetation without thorns. The majority of the trees there were evergreens; many of them had the appearance of laurels and orange trees. In that country there were a great many different kinds of fruit, most of which he believed to be totally unknown to Europeans. He brought home about twenty-five or twenty-six different kinds of fruit, some of which were valuable as yielding oil. Nearer to the coast, Eastwards, the people cultivated large quantities of cucumbers; and their best salad oil was made from the seeds of the cucumbers. Throughout the whole country the ground-nut was cultivated in large quantities—used as food and for oil. In Angola the natives knew of a very great many different dyes, which they were not very willing to make known to Europeans. In reference to cotton, very large quantities of it were cultivated by the natives, and one small district between the rivers Conza and Loanda, produced 1,300 cloths annually of cotton, grown by the natives, spun by the women, and woven by the men.

The West Coast was by far the best field for cotton. On the East it was cultivated a little, but it was not so good. It clung to the seed, and an iron roller had to be used to separate it. The quantity grown on the East side was very much smaller than on the West side, but the natives had never been induced to cultivate cotton; they had never been offered anything for it, and they only cultivate a little to make clothes for themselves. He believed if they had a market they would cultivate largely, for wherever they had the opportunity of selling anything, they immediately began to collect it. There was a trade between Loanda and Brazil in wax, which was necessary for the churches in Brazil. In the central country the people had no idea that sugar could be got from the sugar-cane, although the sugar-

cane abounded in their country; and when he told them of it the chief asked him to make some. He (Dr. L.) explained that it could only be done by machine. Then asked the chief, would he bring him a machine from his own country? He explained that he was a poor man, and it required something considerable to purchase one. The chief replied: "Why, the whole of the ivory of the country is yours, and if you leave any of it it is your own fault." Angola produced beautiful wheat, and he saw it growing on the high lands with ears the length of the hand. The high land produced it without irrigation, and it might be grown there to almost any extent. The East side of the country also produced wheat. The Zambese overflowed large tracts of country annually, like the Nile. The Portuguese had been in the habit of cultivating the wheat on that side of the country; all it required was that a slave woman with a little hoe should make a hole in the ground, drop a few

seeds in, and push back the soil with her foot. In four months there was a crop of beautiful wheat. This simple operation answered all the purposes of our sub-soiling, ploughing, draining, liming, and manuring. The higher they went up the better the wheat was. In reply to subsequent inquiries, Dr. Livingston said there were extensive tracts of forestland. There were nine seams of coal. He examined one near Tete, which was about 68 inches in diameter; the coal having been tilted to the surface by volcanic action. Lieutenant Hoskins, who had command of one of the gunboats now gone to China, had given his opinion that the bar at the real mouth of the Zambese was no impediment to commercial purposes, as there were 22 feet water upon it; and though the river was rather tortuous he would not hesitate to take up a steamer of the same capacity of his gunboat. The river was at the flood during four or five months of the year.

[From the Journal of Commerce.]

The African Apprentice System.

THE Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist publishes a communication from a returned missionary to Africa (who has spent six years in that country, and traveled extensively over the continent,) which presents some facts relating to the African apprentice system, which demand the consideration of those who are disposed to regard the project with favor. The writer says:

Possibly the final result of the measure might be beneficial to us. But there is one objection to the importation of such apprentices, which seems to me insuperable. The Africans generally have a deep aversion to emigration from their native country. Slaves are the only apprentices to be obtained in Africa, and destructive wars are the only means by which the African chiefs can obtain slaves to supply the demand for emigrants. The opening of the French traffic in apprentices immediately reproduced the slave-catching wars, which had almost ceased in every part of Western Africa. If the Southern States should adopt the French policy, this evil would of course be augmented.

Having resided and traveled in different countries of Western Africa, for six years, I can testify, what no one can deny, that the battles and sieges which supply Europeans with slaves, or apprentices, *destroy from two to four persons* for every laborer who reaches the plantations in America.

In one journey of sixty miles, viz: from Badagry to Abbeokuta, I counted the sites of no less than eighteen towns and villages which had been laid in ruins to supply slaves for the markets of Brazil and Cuba. I found similar desolations in every country which I visited; on the waters of the St. Paul's River, a hundred miles interior from Monrovia, on the slave coast generally, and on the waters of the Niger. On the 3d of March, 1851, I witnessed a battle between the slave-catching army of Dahomey and the Egba people, in which the former were defeated, and left twelve hundred and nine of their number dead on the field. The carnage was probably equally as great on the following day, in a running fight of fifteen miles, and a subsequent close conflict of two hours.

Were it certain that the importation of Africans would promote the virtue, industry, and best interests of Georgia, as civilized men, and as Christians, we must feel a great repugnance to the obtaining of apprentices by means of battles, sieges, and conflagrations in Africa. If the free natives of the country were willing to emigrate, which they are not, the case would be very different.

The commerce of Western Africa is now worth more than thirty millions per annum. If the civilized nations of Europe and America would refuse to depopulate

that extensive and fertile country, and would endeavor to promote peace and civilization among the people, the varied productions of Africa would eventually become a grand item in the commerce of the world. That the people are willing to labor when they have a profitable market, is well known to every one who has been acquainted with the country since the partial suppression of the slave trade. In several districts large quantities of land have been brought into cultivation, and several whole tribes have made decided advances toward civilization. But the unfortunate policy of France has again aroused the demon of war, and some tribes who were foremost in the work of improvement, have turned their attention from agriculture to kidnapping. These facts are

not only asserted by me, but have been recently published again and again, both in England and America, in the letters of missionaries and merchants residing in Africa.

In conclusion, I earnestly hope that the people of America will not consent to spread fire and sword throughout Guinea and Sudan for the sake of present advantage. The true policy of the civilized world is to develop the vast resources of that great continent by commerce and civilization, to cover its plains with tropical plantations and populous towns, and to make its numerous rivers so many highways of an active and valuable commerce.

T. J. BOWEN.

Greensboro, Ga., May 1st, 1858.

Intelligence.

ITEMS FROM AFRICA.

The Corner Stone of the Liberia College was laid during the session, and the Conference adjourned to witness the ceremonies.

Increase.—There has been an increase of the membership during the year.

A new paper.—The Conference determined on starting a new paper for the benefit of their church and country.

An Agent.—The Rev. F. Burns was requested by the Conference to act as the Agent of the paper during his visit to the United States.—[*Christian Advocate*.]

ARRIVAL OF MISSIONARIES.—Rev. David A. Wilson, of the Liberia Mission, and Miss Carrie Kaufman, of Corisco, arrived in New York on the 5th inst., after a long but in other respects pleasant voyage. Both had improved in health on the voyage.

AFRICA.—We have letters from the Corisco Mission as late as the 28th of January, and from Liberia as late as the 13th of March. Our letters from the former mission mention the safe arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Ogden at that place, and also a visit from Mr. Wilson, of Monrovia, and Bishop Payne, of Cape Palmas, at the same time. Mr. and Mrs. Ogden had an unusually long passage, having been detained at various places along the coast; but in other respects the voyage was pleasant, and they acknowledge their obligations to Capt. Yates for his uniform kindness and attention. The schools in Coris-

co were full, and the various departments of missionary labor were going on as usual. Nothing of special importance is communicated from the mission in Liberia. Mr. Wilson had sailed for the United States, and Mr. Williams had taken the supervision of the Alexander High School, though the chief labor of teaching had been assigned to Mr. Blyden, a former pupil, and now candidate for licensure under the Presbytery of Liberia.—*A. and F. Record*.

FROM WEST AFRICA.—Advices from the English Colony at Sierra Leone state, the U. S. sloops of war Cumberland, Dale, and Marion, were occasionally calling off that port. The British squadron in those waters is indefatigable in its endeavors to suppress the traffic in slaves. All vessels with Spanish flags are certain to be overhauled and examined, and some American captains who have to submit to the same ordeal are loud in their complaints of the treatment they receive. The Melacory war continued, and the English troops sent there have met with hard work and some casualties.

By the last European steamer there is news from the Cape of Good Hope to March 22d. The following item of news from that point may have a melancholy interest for some of our readers:

The Rev. J. Wilson had been cruelly murdered in Caffraria; several colored herdsmen had been murdered by Caffres within one hundred miles of the metropolis, and a feeling of insecurity was spreading through the country.

Liberty not worth having.

AN offensive paragraph, from the *Farmville Journal*, (Va.), headed "Liberia a Swindle," we notice only because of the zeal with which it is circulated, and because a few libellous words, winged by hatred, fly swifter than truth, and a poisoned arrow may wound the best cause. Two emancipated slaves, out of a company of sixty, sent to Liberia by the Executors of the will of the late John Watson, of Prince Edward County, Va., speedily returned and reported very unfavorably of their treatment, the country, the agents of the Society, and resigned themselves to their former bondage—one of the Executors purchasing them as his slaves. The transaction seemed to require an apology, and with little regard to truth, it is attempted in the paragraph to which we refer. We presume the editor of the *Farmville Journal* will correct the errors into which he has inadvertently fallen. Liberia a swindle! Then are liberty, law, civilization, Chris-

tianity, such. Benevolent and religious people of the United States have founded and sustained this Republic of colored men, disposed and permitted to aid the work of securing to themselves and their African brethren the greatest advantages and hopes ever conferred upon the most favored people. For a series of years have they contributed generously to assist emigrants in obtaining these advantages and extending them to others.

The Society had no agent on board the ship in which these people sailed. We utterly discredit the charge of dishonesty against the agents of the Society in Liberia—because it is neither made nor confirmed by any respectable testimony. As to lands, each emigrant is by law entitled to receive five acres, and if he has a family, ten acres; and of the slave trade we may say, that against it the Government of Liberia has made incessant and successful war. What could these men know of Liberia? They had little time, less opportunity, to examine: and probably they went out intending to return, and since no man is fit for freedom who cannot appreciate its incomparable value, it may be well for them and Liberia that they did so.

Erratum.

Page 169, second line from bottom, insert, after public life, "with an ample fortune," and substitute for the remainder of

the sentence, *he left it encumbered with debts, which made his retirement an act of justice to his creditors.*

Acknowledgment.

HARTFORD, CONN.,

June 10, 1858.

Rev. R. R. Gurley,

Dear Sir:—Allow the subscriber to acknowledge through the African Repository, with deep gratitude, the receipt of \$1,000, from several individuals in the State, to

constitute him a LIFE DIRECTOR of the American Colonization Society. The favor has a two-fold value, viz: as a token of personal respect and esteem, and of abiding friendship for a great and good cause.

JOHN ORCUTT.

Receipts of the American Colonization Society;

From the 20th of April to the 20th of May, 1858.

VERMONT.			
Enosburgh—Mrs. R. S. Dow...	1 00	Fair Haven—Collection in Rev.	
CONNECTICUT.		B. Hart's Church.....	21 76
By Rev. John Orcutt:		West Haven—David Smith, \$5,	
New Haven—Henry A. DuBois,		S. Painter, \$2, L. Fitch, W.	
\$20, in full to constitute his		W. Tallmadge, each \$1; E.	
son, John Jay DuBois, a life-		B. Wilmot, 50 cents.....	9 50
member; Mrs. Salisbury, \$10,		Fitchville—Mrs. Sherwood Ray-	
Mrs. Whitney, Henry White,		mond, \$30, to constitute herself	
James E. English, each \$5;		a life member.....	30 00
Sylvanus Butler, \$3, L. Brad-		Norwich—Mrs. Russell Hubbard,	
ley, \$2, Jas. Olmstead, 50 cts.	50 50	\$10, Jer. Halsey, E. Learned,	
		each \$5; Mrs. A. Thomas,	

Mrs. S. C. Morgan, each \$2; J. P. Barstow, \$1.....	25 00
<i>Essex</i> —Mrs. Jerusha Hayden, \$10, H. L. Champlin, \$5, H. R. Hovey, \$3, E. W. Pratt, \$2, Mrs. C. W. Smith, S. Bush- nell, T. T. Denison, A. F. Whittemore, Mrs. Jos. Hay- den, each \$1; Mrs. Elias Pratt, J. S. Newell, each 50 cents...	26 00
<i>Clinton</i> —E. A. Elliott, \$10, Mrs. Giles Buckingham, \$3, George & C. A. Elliott, \$2.....	15 00
<i>Farmington</i> —Jno. T. Norton, \$10, Henry Mygatt, Fergus S. Mac- Kee, each \$5; E. L. Hart, \$3; Fisher Gay, Miss Sarah Por- ter, each \$2; James Cowles, Thomas Treadwell, W. Wads- worth, Mrs. Frank Deming, Mrs. Sidney Wadsworth, each \$1; M. Gridley, 50 cents.....	32 50
<i>Canton Centre</i> —Canton Coloniza- tion Society.....	10 50
	<hr/> 220 76

PENNSYLVANIA.

<i>Norristown</i> —Legacy of Jas. Win- nered, \$200—less State tax and expenses, \$8.04.....	191 96
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MARYLAND.

<i>Annapolis</i> —Balance of legacy of Miss Sarah Stewart.....	68 00
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VIRGINIA.

<i>Culpepper County</i> —Final settle- ment of M. Miller's Estate...	517 83
<i>Prince Edward</i> —Mrs. Ann Rice,	1 00
	<hr/> 518 83

OHIO.

By Rev. B. O. Plimpton: <i>Newbury</i> —D. Walkes, \$5, Mrs. R. K. Munn, A. Matthews, each \$1.....	7 00
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MICHIGAN.

By Rev. B. O. Plimpton: <i>Tecumseh</i> —Zachariah Cook, \$2, Hiram Cornelius, \$3, W. A. Hall, \$1.....	6 00
<i>Manchester</i> —L. H. Wies, \$1, H. Goodyer and Tucker, each 50 cents; L. D. Merriman, \$2, David R. Gillet, Mrs. Stittson, each \$1.....	6 00
<i>Grass Lake</i> —Mrs. Lucy Babbitt,	10 00
<i>Battle Creek</i> —Mrs. Lucy Pendle,	10 00
<i>Port Huron</i>	35 00
<i>Paw Paw</i> —James Cone.....	10 00
	<hr/> 77 00

INDIANA.

<i>Princeton</i> —Mrs. Jane Kell.....	5 00
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ILLINOIS.

<i>Highland</i> —Collection in Church, by James A. Ramsay.....	15 00
<i>Chicago</i> —Solomon Sturgis, Esq.	250 00
	<hr/> 265 00

MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Olive Branch</i> —A. B. Cowan....	27 00
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LOUISIANA.

<i>New Orleans</i> —McDonogh's Estate,	5,000 00
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FOR REPOSITORY.

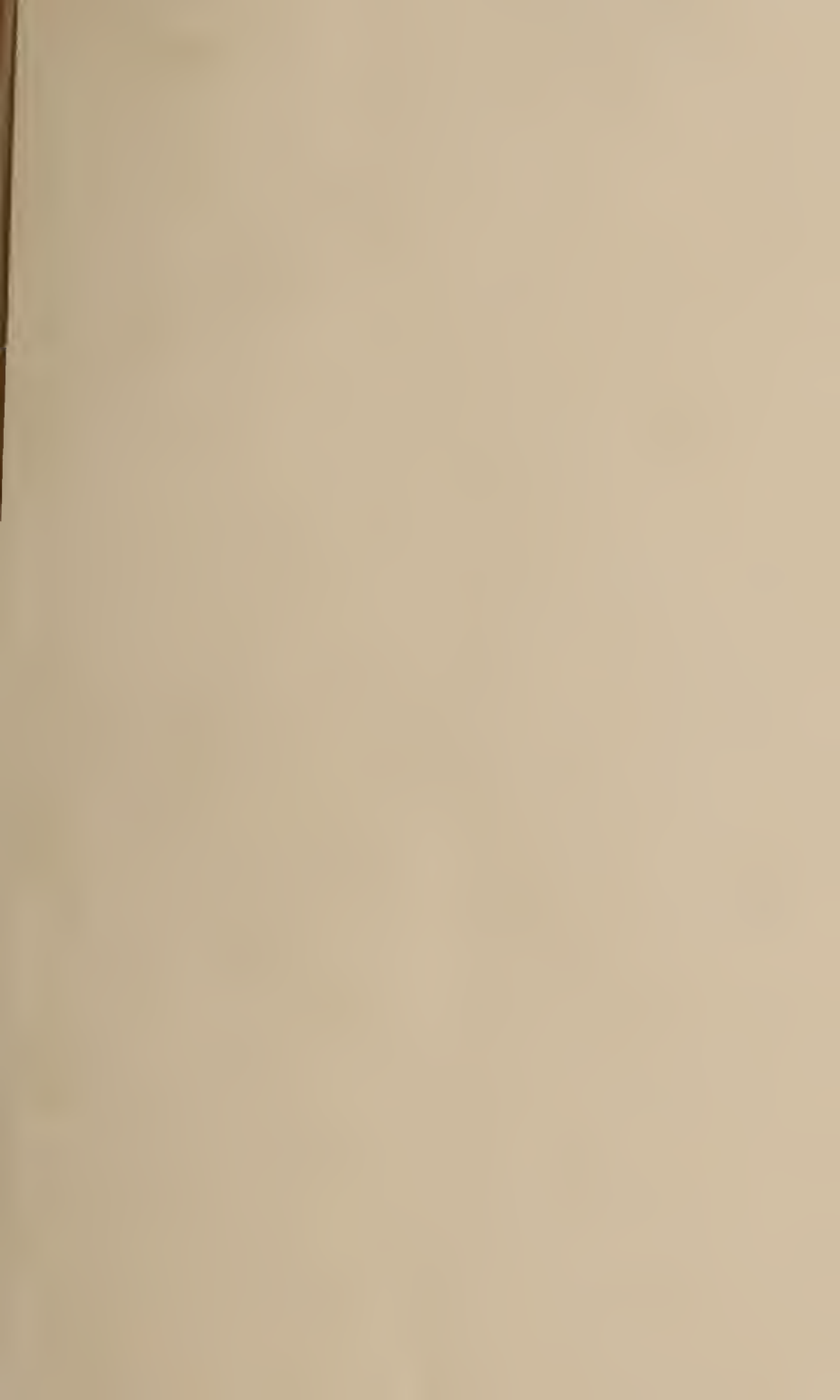
<i>NEW HAMPSHIRE.</i> — <i>Piermont</i> —J. S. Davis, for 1858.....	1 00
<i>VERMONT.</i> — <i>Newbury</i> —David John- son, to May, '59, \$1. <i>Enos- burgh</i> —Levi Nichols, H. N. Barker, James Boutelle, S. H. Dow, Geo. Adams, each \$1, to May, '59.....	6 00
<i>RHODE ISLAND.</i> — <i>Newport</i> —Mrs. E. Totten, for 1858.....	1 00
<i>CONNECTICUT.</i> — <i>North Huron</i> — Solomon A. Orcutt, for '58, \$1. <i>Newtown</i> —Henry Beers, for 1858, \$1.....	2 00
<i>NEW YORK.</i> — <i>Benton Centre</i> —Rev. F. G. Hibbard.....	1 00
<i>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.</i> — <i>Wash- ington</i> —Hon. W. M. Merrick, to 1 May, 1860.....	2 00
<i>VIRGINIA.</i> — <i>Petersburg</i> —David B. Dagger, for 1858, \$1. <i>Cobham</i> —Dr. John H. Minor, for '58, \$1. <i>Norfolk</i> —E. J. Griffith, for '58 and '59, \$2; J. W. Keeling, for '58, \$1. <i>Boykins'</i> <i>Depot</i> —Samuel Brittle, for '58, \$1.....	6 00
<i>NORTH CAROLINA.</i> — <i>Marion</i> —Th. A. Paxton, for 1858.....	1 00
<i>MISSISSIPPI.</i> — <i>Olive Branch</i> —A. B. Cowan, to 1 Jan. 1860....	3 00
<i>KENTUCKY.</i> — <i>Fredonia</i> —James Waddell, for 1858, \$1. <i>Prince- ton</i> —F. W. Urey, for '58, \$1.	2 00
<i>OHIO.</i> — <i>Geneva</i> —Mrs. Mary E. Mills, in full, \$2.50. <i>Bolivar</i> —D. Yant, to 1 Jan. 1858, \$2.	4 50
<i>LIBERIA.</i> — <i>Greenville</i> —Rev. H. B. Stewart, for 1858.....	1 00

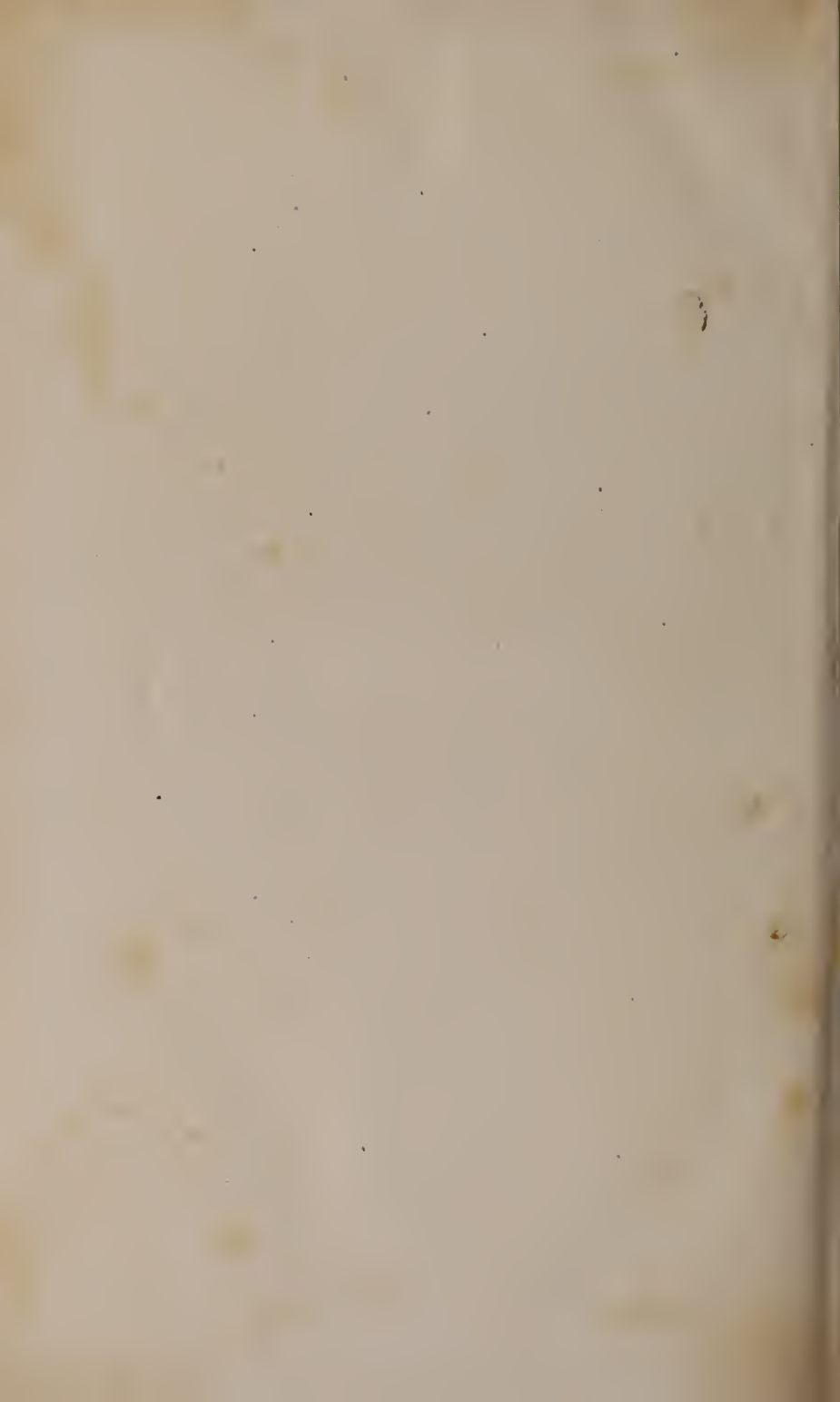
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Total Contributions..... 603 76

Total Legacies..... 5,777 79

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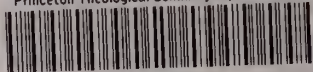




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